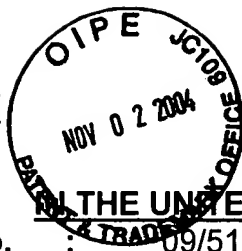


PATENT

Doc. No. 4303-4003US1



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
Appl. No. : 09/516,753

Applicants : Gregory Pinchasik et. al.
Filed : March 1, 2000
Title : LONGITUDINALLY FLEXIBLE STENT
Art Unit : 3731
Examiner : Vy Q Bui
Docket No. : 4303-4003US1

Mail Stop
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

COMMUNICATION CONCERNING RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office action of August 11, 2004 requiring an election of species, the Examiner contacted the Applicants' representative signified below to state that the election requirement was sent in error because an election was made in paper number 6 filed on June 11, 2001.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the current election requirement that duplicates the restriction/election requirement previously answered in the above filing.

CONCLUSION

If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any suggestions for expediting allowance of this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required for this amendment, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 4303-4003US1. **A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.**

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

Dated: November 2, 2004

By: Keith J. McWha
Keith J. McWha
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